new line project. The work of Saryu bridge is nearing completion. The project is targeted for completion during 2002-03.

(b) After construction of bridge the distance between Gorakhpur and Allahabad will get reduced by about 27 kilometres.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Remodelling of Bangalore Railway Station

3224. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Bangalore City (SBC) station lounge constructed and number of trains added up since then;

(b) the measures taken to ease the congestion and whether there is any proposal for further expansion;

(c) the steps taken to improve passenger amenities like retiring rooms, which are very few at present;

(d) what are the future plans to develop the second entry at SBC; and

(e) whether Government have any programme for overall beautification and remodelling of Bangalore City Railway Station (SBC)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The Bangalore City Station (SBC) lounge was constructed in 1982. 40 mail/express trains and ten passenger trains have been added since 1982.

(b) To ease the congestion at SBC, a second coaching terminal at Yashwantpur, for Bangalore area, has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 16.41 crores. As a part of it, a new platform with shelter, foot over bridge connecting both entries and all platforms, extension of Platform Nos. 2 and 3, one pit line, sicklines, one stabling line and improvement to station building have been completed.

(c) 32 retiring rooms are available and work of provision of 4 more retiring rooms at a cost of Rs. 18 lakh has also been sanctioned.

(d) 2nd entry has been commissioned with sufficient vehicle parking, booking office, etc. at Bangalore City station.

(e) This is a continuous process and it is being undertaken based on need and relative priorities of various works.

New train from Bangalore to New Delhi

3225. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two trains are running daily from the Southern States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, to the Capital;

(b) whether there is any proposal to start a second train from Bangalore to New Delhi; and

(c) if so, by when it would be taken up and what is the current demand position of KK Express?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) At present, six pairs of daily express trains from Andhra Pradesh, two pairs of daily express trains from Kerala and three pairs of daily express trains from Tamil Nadu to Delhi area are available.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal at present to start a second train from Bangalore to New Delhi. As regards the demand, the position on train varies not only from day to day but also from time to time within the same date.

Length of rail tracks in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh

†3226. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of the rail tracks, in kms., extended in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the total expenditure incurred on extension of rail tracks during the said period; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.